

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Masahiko HIROSE
Serial No. : 10/002,549
Filed : 11/2/2001
Title : HIGHLY PERMEABLE COMPOSITE REVERSE OSMOSIS MEMBRANE
AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME

Art Unit : 1723
Examiner : D. Sorkin

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231



22511

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

REPLY UNDER 35 U.S.C. §1.111

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 4, 2003, please reconsider this application in light of the amendments made below and the following remarks.

CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows. A marked up copy of the claim is provided in Appendix A.

1. (Four Times Amended) A highly permeable composite reverse osmosis membrane comprising a thin film containing an amino group directly connected to an aromatic ring and a microporous support to support the thin film;

wherein the thin film is formed through an interfacial polymerization by reacting a polyvinyl alcohol-based amine compound having at least two amino groups with at least one substantially monomeric compound having at least two groups that react with the at least two amino groups on the polyvinyl alcohol-based amine compound,

and wherein the highly permeable composite reverse osmosis membrane
having a salt rejection of no more than 80% as assessed with a pH